As reported in the local media, we are aware of Chinese authorities confirming two deaths from H7N9 strain in March 2013. For updates on those affected by the H7N9 strain, please continue to monitor the information released by the local authorities. For general information on Avian Influenza A (H5N1) and Pandemic Influenza when traveling abroad, please visit the State Department's website at http://travel.state.gov/, where you can find more detailed information on the topic at http://travel.state.gov/travel/tips/health/health/ 2747.html.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in China enroll in the Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) at https://step.state.gov/step. STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. Embassy or nearest U.S. Consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate.

Regularly monitor the State Department's website at http://travel.state.gov, where you can find current Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution. Read the Country Specific Information for China at http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1089.html. For additional information, refer to "A Safe Trip Abroad" on the State Department's website.

Contact the U.S. Embassy or Consulate for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free from within the United States and Canada, or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on Twitter at https://mobile.twitter.com/travelgov and Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/travelgov, and download our free Smart Traveler iPhone App at https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/smart-traveler/id442693988?mt=8 to have travel information at your fingertips.

The American Citizen Services unit of the U.S. Consulate General in Shanghai is located at 1038 West Nanjing Road, 8th Floor, Shanghai 200041. For the American Citizen Services operation hours, please refer to our website: http://shanghai.usembassy-china.org.cn/service.html. If you are a U.S. citizen in need of urgent assistance, the emergency number for the U.S. Consulate General in Shanghai is (86) (21) 3217-4650.